Mr. I. N. Menon.—I suppose, in the chance of going and meeting people and asking them and also the opinion of the Inspector of Northern Division was taken.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Are these qualifications lacking in others?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—They do not possess them in the same degree

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I know whether there are any papers or reports from the Inspector or remarks of visitors to show that this gentleman possessed all these qualities referred to by the Director of Public Instruction?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I have already stated that I asked the Inspector of Northern Division, who was his immediate superior, and who was almost in weekly contact with the work of this officer, and his opinion was that he was the best man.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Had he suggested any other name?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What was the nature of the question put to him—whether you asked him to select a person?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I do not quite remember the exact wording, but I think it was to this effect. I asked the Inspector whether he could think of any young man to be given the post of a Deputy Inspector and he said he wanted time. I told him that a certain name had occurred to me and I just wanted to know whether he had better names to suggest. When I mentioned this name he told me that he wanted to consider. Later on he told me that he could not think of a better man in the Upper Secondary grade.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Was this an offer to him or was this thrust upon him? I understand that it was thrust upon him.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—That depends upon the psychology of the individual. He was appointed and he willingly accepted it.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Was this gentleman a student of the Northern Division Inspector?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I have no information.

Deputation of clerks of the Director of Public Instruction's Office for L. T. training.

46. **Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they have sent any clerks from the Director's Office for L. T. training;

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(b) if so, what are the reasons that led them to do so ;

(c) the number of untrained graduate teachers in the department ?

Mr. I. N. Menon Yes.

(b) 1. It was felt that a graduate with clerical experience and of at least average intelligence should make a better junior Inspecting Officer than a teacher.

2. Graduates entering the clerical line had no prospects of executive work in the department unless they were offored such opportunities.

(c) 96 Sirkar school teachers

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—(b) By whom was it felt?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It was felt by me and it was felt by the Madras Educational Department.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Have the Inspecting officers including the Director of Public Instruction any clerical experience before they were appointed to their posts?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I was a District Educational Officer and have some knowledge of clerical work.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will not this policy adversely affect the prospects of the teachers in service?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—If the question means that some job will have to be given to these trained clerks I must say yes, but it may be one or two out of 5 or 6 and will make only very little difference.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—(b) (2). Will you be able to tell us what opportunities the graduate clerks in other departments possess for executive work?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I am speaking subject to correction. The clerks in the Revenue Department are naturally promoted as Revenue Inspectors and ultimately as Tahsildars. So there seems to be a chance for a clerk to become a Tahsildar whereas in the case of clerks in the Education Department there seems to be some difference of work, unless they are not given this special training. This practice obtains also in the Madras Government.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—May I know that hereafter the vacancies in the Inspectorates will be filled up by appointing these clerks who have taken the L. T. degree?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It cannot be said that these persons will not be taken.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It is stated that "it was felt that a graduate with clerical experience and of at least average intelli-

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gence should make a better junior Inspecting officer than a teacher." Does the Director mean that all the teachers are below average intelligence?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Other things being equal the two have different chances but certainly a good teacher has a better chance of success as an Inspector. I do not say that their number is small; and they will get proper chances to become Inspectors. I may further try to explain the second reason for their being sent up for training. These people have no prospects in the clerical line unless they are given some other outlet.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It is said that a graduate with clerical experience and of at least average intelligence etc. etc. Will the Director be pleased to tell me whether there are graduates without the average inteliigence?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is rather a general question. But I think I have come across some persons whose intellects were discovered to be post-graduate.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—For inspection work, which is more necessary—teaching experience or clerical experience?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It requires both to a certain extent That is why they are being trained as teachers. It is not proposed to send out these clerks directly after their training as Inspectors They will be sent out as teachers first and then only they will be recruited to the Inspectorate

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Are teachers promoted as Inspectors given any clerical experience?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—They are not. And that is why this was thought to be more useful.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—In the case of clerks they have no prospects for executive work. For teachers, do you give them opportunities to serve as clerks?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Except in the case of the primary school teachers I think I have not so far received any petition for a transfer from one department to the other. As a rule people like to be teachers.

Mr T. K. Nayar.—Will not this arrangement cause hardship to the teachers?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—There is no room for them to apprehend just because one clerk is sent up for training. The obvious possibility of his absorbtion some day in the course of his career in the Inpecting line does not mean that the normal prospects for promotion of teachers are barred.

Mr. T. K Nayar.—Will not one selection for an Inspector's post affect several teachers in the department?

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Mr. I. N. Menon.—As you have already seen, the selection of one teacher himself has caused heart-burn. I cannot help that. But I am sure it will not in the least affect the real interests of these teachers.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Were there applications from these clerks for this special training?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The propos l was made to the Government by the department. It was accepted. And after it was accepted I made the selection and asked them whether they were willing.

Closing of Professional Colleges against Cochin State students.

47. **Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they are aware that some of the Professional Colleges in Madras were closed against Cochin State students this year ;

(b) if so, whether they have taken any action to remove this bar ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) The Professional Colleges were not closed against Cochin State students this year. Applicants from Cochin complained of difficulties in getting admission.

(b) Two seats were reserved in the Medical College, Madras. The matter is still under correspondence with the Madras Educational authorities regarding admission to the Engineering College, Guindy.

Mr E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know the terms under which admissions were secured for two students in the Medical College?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—We have to pay inclusive of fee Rs. 1,000 to the Medical College for registering two seats. This includes also the fee of 100 rupees which the student has to pay to the College so that we can recoup 400 rupees from the pupils.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Is it not possible to get more seats reserved for our students in the Medical College?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It was not even thought desirable to accept this concession at this price. It was only at the last hour that it was decided that whatever be the price two seats should be reserved for the benefit of Cochin students.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Has any Cochinite got admission in the Madras Engineering College?

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